

SIMPLIFICATION IN TOK PISIN AND ESPERANTO FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF TEACHING ENGLISH AS AN INTERNATIONAL AUXILIARY LANGUAGE

Mamoru Morizumi

INTRODUCTION

If the simplicity of a language is defined as 'use of limited sounds, letters, vocabulary and structural patterns' and 'reduction of irregularity', pidgin languages are undoubtedly typical examples of simplified languages. One more category of languages well-known for the simplicity is artificial international auxiliary languages, which usually show enormous simplification in orthography, vocabulary and grammar.

Pidgin languages have developed in a 'natural' situation in the sense that they started in the actual need for intercommunication between two or more people who speak different languages. Artificial languages are theory-oriented and are constructed as systematically as possible, although the theories or systems of most existing artificial languages are based on those of the Indo-European languages including Latin. If we can find similarities in the simplification of the two, it would imply that the simplicity of pidgin languages is theoretical and systematic, and would also suggest that the simplicity of artificial languages is natural and practical.

On the basis of this hypothesis, in this paper, the simplicity of Tok Pisin and Esperanto is analysed comparatively. Tok Pisin is one of the pidgin Englishes spoken in Papua New Guinea. It is a pidgin which 'may have some percentage of native speakers and still retain its structural and lexical simplicity'(Woolford, 1979 : 11). It may be needless to say that Esperanto is the most popular and successful of more than a dozen artificial international auxiliary languages ever created.

For the discussion and analyses of the characteristics of simplicity in the two languages, I have made use of the two scales of 'volume' and 'regularity'. As for the former, there are some reservations about making it one of the factors for simplicity of language ; the small volume or number of linguistic materials does not necessarily mean language simplification. From the viewpoints of the early stage of language acquisition or foreign languages learning, however, no one can deny that the reduced materials of sounds, letters, grammar and vocabulary are easier and more quickly acquired or learned. Thus reduction of the materials used still has something to do with simplicity of language.

As for the latter, it might be argued that regularity does not always follow simplicity. It is true that there are cases where we have an enormous number of rules which have no exceptions at all. In such cases, regularity does not equal simplicity because of the large volume of rules. We can say, however, there is more simplicity in regularity than in irregularity, if the volume is limited, which is quite often the case with teaching of a foreign language. In this sense regularity can be one of the factors for simplicity.

The analyses are divided into four parts — orthographical and phonological, morphological, syntactical, and lexical parts — of the two languages. In each part I have picked up some items which are fundamental and important from the viewpoint of teaching of English as an international auxiliary language. Thus the comparative analyses in this paper are by no means exhaustive.

ORTHOGRAPHY AND PHONOLOGY

1.1 Letters

The alphabet of Esperanto consists of 28 letters — five vowel letters and 23 consonant letters:

A	B	C	Ĉ	D	E	F	G	Ĝ	H	Ĥ	I	J	Ĵ	K	L	M	N
O	P	R	S	Ŝ	T	U	Ŭ	V	Z								

The vowel letters are A, E, I, O and Ŭ, which correspond to the same symbols in the International Phonetic Alphabet. Among the consonant letters, C, G, H, J, S and Ŭ are added to complete the 'one letter one sound' system, while the four letters Q, W, X and Y are not used in the Esperanto Alphabet. They are represented by kv, u, ks and j respectively. The following are some of the consonants whose pronunciations are a little different from those of the English consonants.

c - ts [ts] as in <u>cats</u>	ĥ - ch[x] as in Scots ' <u>loch</u> '	ŝ - sh [ʃ] as in <u>ship</u>
ĉ - ch [tʃ] as in <u>church</u>	j - y [j] as in <u>yellow</u>	ŭ - u [u] as in <u>cow</u>
g - g [g] as in <u>gay</u>	ĵ - s [ʒ] as in <u>pleasure</u>	
ĝ - g [dʒ] as in <u>gem</u>	s - s [s] as in <u>gas</u>	

In Tok Pisin the number of letters is 22; the four letters C, Q, X and Z of the English alphabet are omitted. Their places are taken by k or s, kw, kis and s respectively. It is an interesting coincidence that the number of consonants deleted from the English alphabet is 4 in both Esperanto and Tok Pisin and that two of the four are Q and X. If we take into consideration that Tok Pisin's W and Y are likely to be expressed in U or V and I,¹⁾ the similarity between the two languages increases further.

1.2 Vowel and Consonant Sounds

One of the difficulties of learning English as a foreign and/or an international language is that English spelling and pronunciation are highly irregular ; one letter may have several different sounds, and one sound may be represented by several different letters.

The letters and sounds are absolutely phonetic in Esperanto ; both vowels and consonants are all 'pure', i. e. single, sounds. So the number of letters used in Esperanto exactly corresponds to that of the sounds used. For example, there are five vowel letters in Esperanto, and this means there are five vowels in the language ; no more and no less. Likewise, there are 23 consonants in Esperanto, because it has 23 consonant letters.

Tok Pisin's phonetic spelling system also avoids the unnecessary complexities of English orthography.²⁾ Although it is reported that there are 12 vowels at maximum in Tok Pisin, we might well say in principle that there are 5 vowels³⁾ and 17 consonants which exactly corresponds to the number of vowel and consonant letters. The following is a list of the number of single sounds (phonemes) used in Esperanto and Tok Pisin compared with that of English.

	Vowels (Single only)	Consonants
Esperanto	5	23
Tok Pisin	5 (+ 7)	17
English	19	28

1.3 Spelling and Pronunciation

The above discussion of Esperanto leads to the conclusion that in Esperanto spelling and pronunciation are definitely phonetic ; as a word is spelt, so it is pronounced, and vice versa. This regularity naturally eliminates the silent letters which are one of the major stumbling blocks for learners of English in pronouncing its words.

Tok Pisin's phonetic spelling system is not so regulated as that of Esperanto, though, as a whole, it is much more systematic than that of English. One of the irregularities is found in the case of the sounds [b], [d] and [g]. They have their inset strongly nasalized, making them sound like [mb], [nd] and [ŋg] : thus *buk* (book) may be pronounced like [mbuk], *dai* (cease) like [ndai] and *go* (go) like [ŋgɔ]. The spelling 'f' may cause some ambiguity. It sounds something between an 'f' and a 'p' — as if getting the lips ready to say 'p' and instead blowing through an 'f' sound. There are no silent letters in Tok Pisin, either.

1.4 Stress or Accent

In Esperanto the stress always falls on the last syllable but one, while in Tok Pisin most of the words have their stress on the first syllable.⁴⁾

MORPHOLOGY

2.1 Nouns

In Esperanto all nouns in the singular end in *-o* : *patro* (father), *tablo* (table), *domo* (house), *pomo* (apple), and there is no need for the indefinite article 'a' or 'an'. Nouns in the plural add *j* to the *-o*: *patroj*, *tabloj*, *domoj*, *pomoj*.

In Tok Pisin there is no difference in form between singular and plural nouns ; there is no equivalent of the *-s* plural ending of English, or the *-j* of Esperanto. However, plurality is indicated, if it is necessary, by *ol*, which precedes the noun.

haus (a house) — ol haus (houses) jif (a chief) — ol jif (chiefs)

As is well-known, Esperanto is a highly systematized artificial language mainly based on European languages including Latin. This feature is well reflected in some characteristics of its noun inflections. As mentioned above, every noun in Esperanto ends in *-o*, but this is true only with the nominative case; in the objective case *-n* is added to distinguish it from the subject.

La viro amas la virinon. (The man loves the woman.)

With this distinction it does not matter if we reverse the sentence : La virinon amas la viro, the meaning is still the same ; *la virinon* is still the 'object', though it comes first in the sentence.

There is no feature like this in Tok Pisin, so it may be said that as far as word order is concerned, Tok Pisin is more similar to English than to Esperanto.

2.2 Pronouns

The following are lists of the personal pronouns of Esperanto and Tok Pisin.

<Esperanto>

Person	Singular	Plural
1st	mi (I, me)	ni (we, us)
2nd	vi (you)	vi (you)
3rd	li (he, him) ŝi (she, her) ĝi (it)	ili (they, them)

<Tok Pisin>

Person	Singular	Dual	Plural
1st	mi (I, me)	yumi (we, us)	mipela (we, us)
2nd	yu (you)		yupela (you)
3rd	em (he, him, she, her, it)		ol (they, them)

A glance at the lists will show that the personal pronouns of both Esperanto and Tok Pisin are more simplified than those of English in the sense that there is no difference between the nominative and objective cases. In Esperanto every personal pronoun ends in *-i*, which is not true of the Tok Pisin pronoun, but in Tok Pisin the simplification of the third person singular is striking ; *em* represents the English 'he', 'him', 'she', 'her', and 'it'. However, we find in Tok Pisin what seems to be an unnecessary complication for both Japanese and European speakers, i. e. the existence of dual number. Both *yumi* and *mipela* imply 'we' and 'us' in terms of English, but the former includes the person spoken to and the latter excludes the person spoken to.

Yumi go nau. — We are going now. (You and I.)

Mipela i go nau. — We are going now. (But you aren't.)

With regard to demonstrative pronouns, neither Esperanto nor Tok Pisin regularizes its forms as rigidly as does English. In Esperanto the term *tiu* is equivalent to English 'that' and *ĉi tiu* to English 'this'⁵⁾; there is no single term equivalent to English 'this'. In Tok Pisin, on the other hand, *em*, which is used for such personal pronouns as 'he', 'she', and 'it', is equivalent to English 'that'. The term *dispela* is used both for 'this' and 'that', the difference being rendered by context or gesture in the spoken language. It is quite interesting that, in Esperanto and Tok Pisin, there is no definite single-word equivalent to English 'this' which is introduced at the initial stage of English teaching in Japan and other countries and regarded as one of the most important basic words.

In Esperanto personal pronouns can be made into pronoun adjectives by the addition of *-a* to translate 'my', 'your', 'her', etc. They are put in front of nouns they qualify in exactly the same way as in English. In Tok Pisin there are no pronoun adjectives, but equivalents are rendered by using the preposition as seen in the following.

	your book	his mother
Esperanto	via libro	lia patrino
Tok Pisin	buk bilong yu	mama bilong em

In both Esperanto and Tok Pisin the pronoun-adjectives or their equivalents are also used as possessive pronouns:

Esperanto	via	= your, yours
Tok Pisin	bilong yu	= your, yours

2.3 Verbs

The verbs in Esperanto are quite regular: there is no difference of form depending on the number and person of the subjects. Every verb ends in *-as* in the present tense. For example, *estas* represents 'is', 'am' and 'are', and *legas* represents both 'read' and 'reads'.

When we wish to show that the action or state has already happened or existed, the verb ends in *-is*.

Mi skriblas.	Mi skriblis.
(I write.)	(I wrote.)
Li parolas.	Li parolis.
(He speaks.)	(He spoke.)

The verb ends in *-os* for the future tense.

Mi skriblos al vi morgau.
(I will write to you tomorrow.)

There are many other verb-endings in Esperanto. A list of them is shown in the following. (For explanations and examples, see the corresponding parts in the next section "Syntax".)

Root		am-	love
Tense	present past future	amas amis amos	love, loves loved will love
Aspect	progressive perfect starting	amanta aminta amonta	loving loved about to love
Voice	passive progressive passive perfect passive starting	amata amita amota	being loved been loved about to be loved
Mood	imperative subjunctive	amu amus	love would love
Infinitive Gerund		ami ami	to love loving

Basically tense is not important in Tok Pisin and often goes unmarked. In these cases a present, past, or future tense is indicated and determined by the context.

Where specific time reference is required this is indicated by time verbs or by the words *bin* (<Eng. been) for the past and *bambai* or *bai* (<Eng. by and by) for the future.

Mi bin lukim haus.	(I saw the house.)
Em i go asde.	(She went yesterday.)
Bai mi go.	(I shall go.)

No irregular verbs in terms of those of English can be found in Esperanto and Tok Pisin.

One of the features of Tok Pisin's verb endings is the suffix *im* for most of the transitive verbs. There is no inflection like this in English, nor in Esperanto. Tok Pisin's verbs are roughly divided into the following three categories:

- (1) transitive
 - Ⓐ ending of *-im*

baim (buy)	kolim (call)	givim (give)	makim (do)	holim (hold)
------------	--------------	--------------	------------	--------------
 - Ⓑ no ending of *-im*

gat (have)	pilai (play)
------------	--------------
- (2) intransitive

go (go)	ran (run)	kam (come)	toktok (talk)
---------	-----------	------------	---------------
- (3) intransitive in one form and transitive in the other

kik, kikim (kick)	marit, maritim (marry)	rit, ritim (read)	tis, tisim (teach)
-------------------	------------------------	-------------------	--------------------

2.4 Adjectives and adverbs

English adjectives and adverbs have three forms which are sometimes called 'degrees' — positive, comparative and superlative. Esperanto also has these degrees but there is no difference between '-er', '-est' forms and 'more-', 'most-' forms, nor between regular and irregular forms. Esperanto has but one form.

alta (high)	<i>pli</i> alta (higher)	<i>plej</i> alta (highest)
bona (good)	<i>pli</i> bona (better)	<i>plej</i> bona (best)

Tok Pisin expresses comparative degree by putting *moa* before the adjective or adverb, and the superlative by following the adjective or adverb with such particles *tru*, *tumas* and *olgeta*.

bigpela (big)	<i>moa</i> bigpela (bigger)	bigpela <i>tumas</i> (biggest)
hariap (fast)	<i>moa</i> hariap (faster)	hariap <i>tumas</i> (fastest)

In both Esperanto and Tok Pisin, conjugation of the degrees of adjectives and adverbs is much simpler and more regular than those of English.

It must also be mentioned that Esperanto has its own inflection in the use of adjectives; the adjective must agree with the noun it qualifies. If the noun is plural, the adjective also takes the plural sign *j* in its ending.

bona hundo (a good dog)	bonaj hundoj (good dogs)
-------------------------	--------------------------

In addition, if the adjective qualifies or refers to a noun in the objective case, it must also take

the sign of the objective ending.

Yuna birdo kreskas rapide. (A young bird grows rapidly.)

Mi trovis junan birdon. (I found a young bird.)

Some of the main points discussed in this section are summarized in the following lists:

Comparison of Some Features
in English, Esperanto and Tok Pisin

Items	Eng.	Esp.	T. P.
Indefinite Article	○	×	×
Definite Article	○	○	×
Pronoun: Dual Plural Form	×	×	○
Pronoun: Three Divisions of Third Person Singular Form	○	○	×
Verb: Third Person Singular Form	○	×	×

Parts of Speech	Items	Inflection or Sign			Regularity		
		Eng.	Esp.	T. P.	Eng.	Esp.	T. P.
Noun	number (plural)	△	○	×	△	○	○
	case (objective)	×	○	×	○	○	○
	gender (feminine)	△	○	○	△	○	○
Pronoun	personal (objective)	○	○	×	×	○	○
	personal (possessive)	○	○	×	×	○	○
	interrogative	△	○	×	△	○	○
Verb	intransitive/transitive	×	×	○	○	○	△
	person	△	×	×	△	○	○
	number	△	×	×	△	○	○
	tense	△	○	×	×	○	△
	aspect	○	○	×	×	○	△
	voice	○	○	×	○	○	○
	mood	○	○	×	×	○	○
	infinitive	△	○	×	×	○	○
	gerund	○	○	×	○	○	○

Auxiliary	tense (past)	△	○	×	×	○	○
	tense (future)	△	○	×	△	○	○
Adjective	positive	×	○	×	△	○	△
	comparative	○	○	×	△	○	○
	superlative	○	○	×	△	○	○
	plural	×	○	×	○	○	○
Adverb	positive	×	○	×	△	○	△
	comparative	○	○	×	△	○	○
	superlative	○	○	×	△	○	○

○=Existence of features.

×=Lack of features.

△=Some are ○, some are ×.

SYNTAX

3.1 The Predicate Marker 'i' in Tok Pisin

The use of the predicate marker 'i' is one of the characteristics of Tok Pisin and other pidgin Englishes, and is not found in either Esperanto or English. The following are some of the rules for the use of this form:

- (1) It is always used when the subject is a noun, or the third person singular or plural personal pronoun.

San i lait.	(The sun shines.)
Em i gat kros long mi.	(He feels angry at me.)
Ol i go long ples.	(They went home.)

- (2) It is usually used when the subject is either the first person plural (exclusive) or the second person plural personal pronoun.

Mipela (i) kam nau.	(We are coming now.)
Yupela (i) go we?	(Where are you going?)

- (3) It is never used when the subject is the first or the second person singular personal pronoun, or the demonstrative pronoun *em*.

Mi go long hap asde.	(I went there yesterday.)
Yu laikim wonem?	(What do you want?)
Em papa bilong mi.	(That is my father.)

3.2 Declarative Sentences

As stated in 2.4, the inflectional distinction between subjective forms and objective forms of the nouns in Esperanto enables the language to have a comparatively 'free' word order; either $<S + V + O>$ or $<O + V + S>$ will do. This is not the case with Tok Pisin, which prefers the rather rigid word order of $<S + V + O>$ as in English.

Esperanto	La viro amas la virinon. (The man loves the woman.) La virinon amas la viro. (The man loves the woman.)
Tok Pisin	Man laik meri. (The man loves the woman.)

Negative sentences are very easy to make in Esperanto; we have only to put the negative *ne* immediately before the verb.

Li legas. (He reads.)	Li ne legas. (He does not read.)
Tio estas tablo. (That is a table.)	Tio ne estas tablo. (That is not a table.)

In Tok Pisin, too, the negative is indicated by inserting the negative adverb *no* (equivalent to English 'not') before the verb proper.

Mi save. (I know.)	Mi no save. (I do not know.)
Ol i go long ples. (They went home.)	Ol i no go long ples. (They did not go home.)

3.3 Interrogative Sentences

In English some of the general questions (or yes—no questions) are formed by putting the auxiliary 'do' or 'does' in front of the statement. This 'do' or 'does' is rendered in one single word *ĉu* in Esperanto, which is used almost in the same way as its English counterpart to make interrogative sentences.

Vi parolas Esperanto. (You speak Esperanto.)	Ĉu vi parolas Esperanto? (Do you speak Esperanto?)
Li loĝas tie. (He lives there.)	Ĉu li loĝas tie? (Does he live there?)

In the case of English sentences with 'Be-verbs' (*am, is, are, etc.*), we interchange the position of the 'Be-verbs' and the noun or pronoun to make the sentences interrogative. In Esperanto,

however, the above-mentioned *cu* is also used for such cases.

Ŝi estas bela.	Ĉu ŝi estas bela?
(She is beautiful.)	(Is she beautiful?)

In Esperanto there is a change of word order which is found in neither English nor Tok Pisin; when the interrogatives such as *kio* (what), *kiu* (who), *kie* (where), *kiel* (how), etc. are used with personal pronouns (*mi*, *vi*, *li*, etc.), the pronouns are usually put in the second place in a sentence.

Kiu estas la viro?	(Who is the man?)
Kiu li estas?	(Who is he?)
Kie estas vi patriono?	(Where is your mother?)
Kie ŝi estas?	(Where is she?)

In Tok Pisin very few operations are found which change the order of the elements in the few basic construction types and add or subtract from them (Wurm and Mühlhäusler, eds, 1985:93). One of the typical examples of this is the form of interrogative sentences. In Tok Pisin the basic structures of general questions (or yes-no questions) are the same as those of statements, and differ only in intonation.

Yu tisa.	(You are a teacher.)
Yu tisa?	(Are you a teacher?)
Em i kisim pen.	(He has a pen.)
Em i kisim pen?	(Does he have a pen?)
Yu no kam asde.	(You did not come yesterday.)
Yu no kam asde?	(Didn't you come yesterday?)

In special questions (or wh-questions) the interrogatives such as *wanem* or *wanem samting* (what, which), *husat* (who), *we* (where), *wataim* (when), *bilong wanem* (why), etc. are normally placed at the end of the sentence.

Em i wanem (samting)?	(What is this?)
Yu laikim wanem?	(What do you want?)
Em i stap we?	(Where is she?)

The interrogatives in Tok Pisin may also occur initially in the sentence. In such cases, however, they are normally considered forceful and even aggressive.

Wataim em i kam?	(When did he come?)
We stap haus lotu?	(Where is the church?)

Thus, interrogative sentences in Esperanto are simpler and easier to make than those in English, but those in Tok Pisin are even simpler and easier. We do not have to put the

interrogatives at the beginning of the utterance. This means that in Tok Pisin the word order for interrogative sentences is the same as that for statements. Compare this simplicity with that of interrogatives in English and Esperanto. (For reference, an imperative sentence is also attached.)

<English>		<Esperanto>		<Tok Pisin>	
You	read a book.	Vi	legas libron.	Yu	rit buk.
You do not	read a book.	Vi ne	legas libron.	Yu no	rit buk.
Do you	read a book?	Cu vi	legas libron?	Yu	rit buk?
What do you	read?	Kio vi	legas?	Yu	rit wanem (samting)?
	Read a book.		Legu libron.	Yu	rit buk.

3.4 Adjectival Modifiers

When the adjective in Esperanto is used attributively, it usually precedes the noun it qualifies, but it may follow the noun without changing its meaning.

bela domo	}	(a beautiful house)	junaj viroj	}	(young men)
domo bela			viroj junaj		

The most frequently used adjectives in Tok Pisin are a group of adjectives called regular monosyllabic descriptive adjectives (Mihalic, 1971:19). They have two forms: one with and the other without the suffix *-pela*. When these adjectives are used attributively, they always have the suffix and precede the noun they modify.

gutpela buk (a good book) bikpela haus (a big house)

So-called irregular monosyllabic descriptive adjectives such as *hait* (hidden), *lus* (lost), *man* (male), etc. always follow the noun they modify.

ples hait (a hidden place) dok man (a male dog)

Polysyllabic descriptive adjectives usually follow the substantive they modify.

ples santu (a holy place) kaikai inap (sufficient food)

There are some exceptions for each rule mentioned above. Consequently the attributive use of adjectives is more complex in Tok Pisin than in Esperanto or English.

3.5 Infinitives

The English infinitive is indicated by the so-called 'root form' with or without 'to'. The 'root form' is exactly the same as the present form, with the exception of 'be', which is the infinitive of the Be-verbs (is, am, are, was, were, been), and of the third person singular present form of all other verbs. In Esperanto, as in French and other Latin languages, the infinitive is shown by a distinctive ending: all Esperanto infinitives end in *-i*.

esti (to be) paroli (to speak) doni (to give)

This single form of infinitive in Esperanto avoids such complexities of the English infinitive as the difference between 'to-infinitives' and bare infinitives, and that between infinitives and gerunds.

Vi devas *mangi* ion.
(You must eat something.)
Mi volas *paroli* al li.
(I wish to speak to him.)
Ŝi iris el la domo *por fotografi* birdojn.
(She went out of the house to photograph birds.)
Mi ne havas la tempon *por ludi*.
(I do not have time to play.)
Li foriris sen *diri* ion.
(He went away without saying anything.)

While the infinitive in Esperanto is more systematized and simpler in form than that in English, the principal idea of the usage of the infinitive is the same; it has three main usages for noun phrases, adjective phrases and adverbial phrases. The infinitives of Tok Pisin are much simpler in both form and usage; the form of the infinitive is exactly the same as that of present tense and used as follows:

Mi laik go. (I want to go.)
Mi go long kaikai. (I went to eat.)

Although the first sentence is equivalent to 'I want to go', *laik* in Tok Pisin is an auxiliary verb, while the English 'want' is an ordinary verb. *Kaikai* in the second sentence is used as if it were a noun. *Long* is equivalent to the English 'to'. There seems to be very few, if any, adjectival usages of the infinitive in Tok Pisin.

3.6 Prepositional Phrases

The variety and the usage of prepositions in Esperanto are almost the same as those in English, while those in Tok Pisin are very small in number; they boil down to two: *bilong* and *long*. These two cover the whole range of English translations, either by themselves or in combination with a phrase.

Bilong, which originated from English 'belong(ing)', covers 'of', 'for', 'in order to', etc. , while *long*, coming from English 'along', covers 'in', 'by', 'on', 'with', 'to', 'at', 'from', etc. 'Into', 'under', 'through', 'inside', etc. are translated by *insait long*. With this multiple use of the two prepositions, we can have the following sentence:

Mi go long rot long mande long Salamaua na sintim balus long bunara
bilong brata bilong mi, bilong kaikai.
(I went by road on Monday to Salamaua and shot a pigeon with the

bow of the brother of mine, for food.)

As for prepositional phrases qualifying nouns such as 'the book on the table' or 'the cat under the table', their word orders are similar to those of English.

	(the book on the table)	(the cat in the room)
Esperanto	la libro sur la tablo	la kato en la ĉmabro
Tok Pisin	buk long tebol	pusi long rum

3.7 Relative Sentences

There seems to be no significant difference in the rules for the relative pronouns in Esperanto and English except that the rules in Esperanto are much simpler than those in English. The pronoun *kiu* correlates with the subjective case 'that', 'which' or 'who', while *kiun* with the objective case 'that', 'which' or 'whom'. The possessive case is 'whose' is expressed by *kies*.

Li vidis ion kiun li tre amis.
(He saw something which he liked very much.)
Mi konis ĉiun viron, kiun mi renkontis.
(I knew every man that I met.)
Mi vidis kampon en la mezo de kiu staris du arboj.
(I saw a field in the middle of which stood two trees.)
Ĉu vi donus monon al persono, kies bezono estas pli granda ol via?
(Would you give money to a person whose need is much greater than yours?)

In Tok Pisin there were no relative pronouns and adverbs in terms of the English grammar (Hall, 1965:71), but recently with the emergence of a number of new formal devices for signalling their subordinate status, some terms including interrogative pronouns have come to be used as relativisers. According to Wurm and Mühlhäusler (1985:415), present-day Tok Pisin possesses four ways of forming relative sentence:

- (1) Absence of overt relativisers — intonation clues only
Yu rit buk em i givim long yu?
(Did you read the book he gave to you?)
Dispela man i kam asde em i papa bilong mi.
(This man who came yesterday is my father.)
- (2) *Husat* (who, whoever), *wonem* (whatever)
Pablik seven em i man husat i gat strong long wok bilongen.
(A public servant is someone who knows his job.)
Yu laikim wonem mi gat.
(You want whatever I have.)
- (3) *We* (which, who, when, where)
Ol i go long wanpela ples we i gat bikpela tais longen.

(They went to a place where there was a big swamp.)

Taim we em i stap long dispela bet, papa bilongen i tokim ol.

(At the time when he was in this bed, his father said to him.)

- (4) *Ya* for bracketing off an embedded relative sentence from its matrix sentence.

Dispela man ya em i stap long bus ya em i redi na em i kisim banara.

(This man who lived in the bush was ready to get his bow and arrows.)

Yupela lukim meri ya, bipo em i stap ya?

(Did you see the woman who used to live here?)

As is illustrated in the wide range of varieties shown above, the relative sentences in Tok Pisin are rather complex. This is because various phases of pidginization are exhibited in this category. If in the future, however, the use of the particle *ya* is stabilized dominantly, Tok Pisin will have one of the most simplified systems for relative sentences.

3.8 Passive Voice

In Esperanto there are three endings of the passive participles as follows:

<i>amata</i>	being loved
<i>amita</i>	have (has) been loved
<i>amota</i>	about to be loved.

These three kinds of participles are compounded with *estas*, *estis* and *estos* to show the varieties of the passive voice.

La laboro estis farita de li. (The work has been done by him.)

Vi estos helpota di li. (You are about to be helped by him.)

Tok Pisin has no real form for the passive voice. This, however, does not mean that Tok Pisin has no way of expressing a passive. There are two ways as follows:

- (1) Many intransitive verbs, which are actually past participles, have a passive implication.

Mani i lus. (The money is lost.)

Bai kanu i bagarap. (The canoe will be damaged.)

- (2) A kind of circumlocution is adopted: the third person plural personal pronoun is used as a subject and followed by a transitive verb.

Ol i kilim em i dai long pait. (He was killed in the war.)

Ol i kolim nem bilong am Jisas. (He was named Jesus.)

3.9 Progressive and Perfect Aspects

Although there is a form in Esperanto similar to the English continuous or progressive aspect (be + -ing), it is little used. The verb ending *-as* represents both simple and continuous

aspects.

Mi legas. (I read and/or I am reading.)

Ni sidas. (We sit and/or we are sitting.)

This feature almost exactly corresponds to that of simple and continuous aspects in Tok Pisin; Tok Pisin has no ending '—ing' for the verb. So the plain present tense implies the present progressive according to the context.

Em i krai. (He cries and/or he is crying.)

If we want to emphasise the progressive aspect, it is expressed by the auxiliary verb *stap* (to be) or by using the adverb *nau* (now) after the verb in the present.

Em i stap krai./ Em i krai nau. (He is crying now.)

In order to express the perfect aspect of the verb, e. g. an action is finished or complete, we use in English the past participle with 'have' (has, had, will have) to show the time. In Esperanto, we use the perfect participle with the ending *-inta*, but make use of *estas*, *estis* and *estos* to show the time.

Li estas mortinta. (He has died.)

Li estis mortinta. (He had died.)

Li estos mortinta. (He will have died.)

The participle, like an adjective, takes *-j* if the subject is plural:

Ili estas mortintaj. (They have died.)

In Tok Pisin the perfect aspect markers *pinis* (<Eng. finish), *olgeta* (<Eng. altogether) and the combination of the two *olgeta pinis* are employed to show the completion of an action.

Ol kaunsil i kamap pinis. (The councillors have arrived.)

Mi laikim yu pinis. (I have fallen in love with you.)

There is no difference in form between the present perfect and the past perfect.

Tok Pisin has the progressive form with completed action. We use the form for completion *pinis* with *i stap* following, but this form is more theoretical than practical (Mihalic, 1971:29):

Em i rit pinis i stap. (He has been reading.)

3.10 Indirect Speech

In indirect speech in Esperanto, unlike English, the original direct speech is used as it is. There is no such complicated rule as 'sequence of tenses' in Esperanto. As for the conjunction for statements, *ke* is equivalent to the English 'that', but this *ke* is never omitted in Esperanto,

while the English 'that' sometimes is.

La virino amas lin.
(The woman loves him.)
Mi opinias, ke la virino amas lin.
(I think that the woman loves him.)
Ĉu vi amas min?
(Do you love me?)
Mi demandas, ĉu vi amas min.
(I ask whether you love me.)
Kiu vi estas?
(Who are you?)
Mi scivolas, kiu vi estas.
(I wonder who you are.)

Indirect speech in Tok Pisin is usually introduced by *olsem*, *long* or *se*, which can be sometimes omitted like the English conjunction 'that'. There is no such rule as 'sequence of tenses'.

Mi laik kam.
(I want to come.)
Mi tok se mi laik kam.
(I said that I wanted to come.)
Mi bagarap pinis.
(I am really tired.)
Em i tok olsem em i bogatap pinis.
(He said that he was really tired.)

As for interrogatives in reported speech, they are put either at the end of the indirect speech or immediately after the verb in the matrix sentence:

Em i kam we?
(Where does he come from?)
Yu save em i kam we.
(You know where he comes from.)

3.11 Conditional Sentences

While the verbal endings *-as* (present), *-is* (past) and *-os* (future) in Esperanto are used to express a fact, the ending *-us* is used to imply a mere supposition. We have only one ending for supposition, because time does not usually enter into the imaginary action or state.

Ho, se nur mi estus ricâ!

(Oh, if only I were rich!)

Se li scius tion, li ne venus.

(If he knew that, he would not come.)

As in English, this form is also used as a polite form to express a wish or request.

Ĉu mi povus havi tason de teo?

(Could I have a cup of tea?)

In Tok Pisin *sapos* (=if) is usually used for the subordinate clause, while the main clause is additionally marked by *orait* (<Eng. all right) or *em nau* (< Eng. it then). For most varieties of Tok Pisin conditional sentences, the distinction between real or unreal conditions is not formally marked (Wurm and Mühlhäusler, 1985:405). Either 'If the girl agrees, you can get married with her', or 'If the girl agreed, you could get married with her' is possible.

Sapos meri i laik orait yu ken marit long em.

Sapos meri i laik em nau yu ken marit long em.

Sapos meri i laik yu ken marit long em.

You ken marit long meri sapos em i laik.

Some varieties of unreal conditions, however, may be expressed by the use of *pinis* at the end of the subordinate sentences (Wurm, 1971a:74):

Sapos em i kam pinis bai mi givim em wanpela akis.

(If he came, I would give him an axe.)

There is no difference in form between the subjunctive past and the subjunctive past perfect: the context will tell the difference.

3.12 Impersonal Sentences

In English, the pronoun 'it' is used for what we call 'impersonal sentences' such as 'It is hot', 'It is raining', 'It is dark'. This pronoun is also used as the introductory 'it' which introduces and is equal to the part beginning with 'that' or with an infinitive; 'It is true that he won the prize', 'It is important to know the fact', etc. In Esperanto, however, there is no equivalent to this pronoun; the verb is used alone.

Pluvas. (It is raining or rainy.)

Neĝis. (It was snowing or snowy.)

Eatas varme. (It is warm.)

Estas vere, ke ŝi estas bela. (It is true that she is beautiful.)

Ne estas eble, nei la ekziston de Dio.

(It is not possible to deny the existence of God.)

Tok Pisin does not have any equivalent to the English 'impersonal *it*' or 'introductory *it*', either.

Ren i kamdown. (It rains or it is raining.)
 Go long ples, em i gutpela samting. (It is good to go home.)
 No gut mi stap hia. (It is not good that I will remain here.)

LEXICON

4.1 Inflection and Affixes in Esperanto

Both artificial languages and pidgin languages are well-known for their limited vocabulary. Esperanto and Tok Pisin are no exception. An Esperanto dictionary is only one-tenth the size of one in a national language (Cresswell and Hartley, 1968:10). This small vocabulary comes from the idea of carrying the principle of affixes almost through to its logical conclusion. Unlike English there is no exception for the rule of affixes in Esperanto. The following are some examples:

< root : ĉarm—>		< root : nov—>	
ĉarma	charming (adj.)	nova	new
ĉarmo	charm (n.)	novaĵo	news
ĉarmi	to charm, charming (gerund)	noveco	newness
ĉarmas	charm (v.) present	novulo	novice
ĉarmis	charmed	nove	newly
ĉarmos	will charm		
ĉarme	charmingly		

<Affixes>

bona (good)	malbona (bad)
patro (father)	bopatro (father-in-law)
veni (come)	reveni (return)
falas (fall)	disfalas (fall to pieces)
vorto (world)	fivorto (bad, foul word).

The words of Esperanto were taken from some of the major languages of Western civilization, mainly from Latin, which is the origin of so many modern languages.

4.2 Word Formation in Tok Pisin

Tok pisin's vocabulary is also very small. *The Jacaranda Dictionary and Grammar of Melanesian Pidgin*, the largest dictionary ever published for Tok Pisin to English, has less than 2,000 head words, although this does not mean that the Tok Pisin lexicon is inadequate in dealing with complex topics; new words and higher-level lexical items can be formed by combining already available words.

There are three main mechanisms for the formation of new words (Wurm and Mühlhäusler, eds, 1985:431):

(1) Compounding

(a)	gut + taim = guttaim	(good time)	peace
	smol + papa = smolpapa	(small father)	uncle
(b)	wan + bel = wanbel	(one womb)	twin
	wan + ples = wanples	(one village)	one from the same village
(c)	wet + gras = wetgras	(white hair)	old person
	bik + het = bikhet	(big head)	big-headed person
(d)	lus + lain = luslain	(leave group)	depart
	mek + nois = meknois	(make noise)	tremble
(e)	bel + gut = belgut	(belly good)	contented
	bel + klin = belklin	(belly clean)	sincere

(2) Multifunctionality

(a)	ain (iron)	ainim (to iron)
	bros (brush)	brosim (to brush)
(b)	lida (leader)	lida (to be the leader)
	papa (father)	papa (to be the owner)
(c)	bikpela (big)	bikpela (size)
	prout (proud)	prout (pride)
(d)	sindanim (sit)	sindaunim (to cause to sit, settle)
	kirap (get up)	kirapim (to arouse, startle)

(3) Reduplication

(a)	askim (to ask)	askaskim (to ask persistently)
	holim (to hold)	holholim (to hold tight)
(b)	gutpela gutpela meri	(a very good woman)
	trupela trupela tok	(a very true story).

It is also characteristic of Tok Pisin that some already available words are combined with one of the most useful prepositions *bilong* to build a new word, a phenomenon similar to that of vocabulary building in Basic English with its mere 850 words:

gras bilong maus (hair of mouth = moustache)
 gras bilong fas (hair of face = beard)
 gras bilong head (hair of head = hair)

Sometimes nouns, verbs and adjectives follow nouns without prepositions and make new words. The following are some examples in which *dring* (drink), *ka* (car), *holi* (holy), *kot* (court), *kaikai* (eat), *lotu* (god), *mani* (money) and *lait* (light) are attached to the noun *haus* (house).

haus dring (= hotel) haus ka (= garage)

haus holi (= temple)	haus kot (= law court)
haus kaikai (= kitchen)	haus lotu (= church)
haus mani (= bank)	haus lait (= powerhouse)

One of the ways of word-building which shows the remarkable similarity between Esperanto and Tok Pisin is the way of counting numbers. The following are the basic numbers in Esperanto.

1	una	2	du	3	tri	4	kvar	5	kvin	6	ses
7	sep	8	ok	9	nau	10	dek	100	cent	1000	mil

All the other numbers below 1,000,000 are formed from these twelve numbers by simple juxtaposition: 'eleven' is 'ten one', 'twelve' is 'ten two' etc.:

11	dek una	12	dek du	13	dek tri	20	dudek
21	dudek una	30	tridek	200	ducent	234	ducent tridek kvar

This simple juxtaposition is also employed in Tok Pisin's way of counting the numbers.

1	wan, wanpela	2	tu, tupela	3	tri, tripela
4	foa, fopela	5	faiv, faipela	6	sikis, sikispela
7	seven, sevenpela	8	et, etpela	9	nain, nainpela
10	ten, tenpela	11	wan (pela) ten wan	12	wan (pela) ten tu
13	wan (pela) ten tri	20	tupela ten	21	tupela ten wan
30	tripela ten	200	tu hundet	234	tu hundet tripela ten foa

CONCLUSION

If we compare Esperanto and Tok Pisin with English using two scales for simplicity of language—the volume or number of linguistic materials and their regularity in rules—the main points of the previous discussions and analyses may be summarized as follows:

1. The number of sounds used in Esperanto and Tok Pisin is smaller than that in English.
2. The number of the letters used in Esperanto is larger than that in English, while in Tok Pisin the case is reversed. With respect to the relation between sounds and letters or spelling, more regularity is found in both Esperanto and Tok Pisin.
3. Esperanto is more inflectional than English, while Tok Pisin is less inflectional. Naturally, Esperanto's regularity in inflection is perfect, while Tok Pisin remains only a bit more systematic than English. The variety of word order in both Esperanto and Tok Pisin is less than that in English and there is more regularity.
4. Both Esperanto and Tok Pisin use less vocabulary than English. As for lexical regularity, Esperanto excels English with its inflectional word formation, while Tok Pisin is basically the same as English.

This summary is illustrated in the following list:

Esperanto and Tok Pisin Compared with English

		Esperanto		Tok Pisin	
		Volume	Regularity	Volume	Regularity
Sounds (Sing. Vowels and Consonants)		28/47	much more	23/47	much more
Letters		28/26		22/26	
Grammar	Inflection	much more	much more	less	more
	Word Order	less	more	less	more
Vocabulary		less	much more	less	same

As is shown in the above list, both Tok Pisin and Esperanto have less in volume and more in regularity in their linguistic features. This is especially true in their orthography and phonetic spelling systems. Thus, it can be seen that Tok Pisin, which is a natural language, is as simplified as an artificial language in some main categories of its linguistic features. This characteristic of Tok Pisin has an important implication in the teaching of English as an international auxiliary language in both an ideological and a practical sense, and this implication will be discussed in detail in another paper of mine.

NOTES

- 1) Some writers of Melanesian Pidgin have omitted both [w] and [y], and used in their place [u] and [i], in the belief that they were effecting an economy in the orthography (Mihalic, 1971: 8).
- 2) Much of the difficulty of present-day English spelling was caused by Renaissance scholars who introduced Latinizing fashions of writing words, under the delusion that they were 'ennobling' the language (Murphy, 1985: 11).
- 3) The core phonology of Tok Pisin is taken as having five vowels..., but other analyses (such as that of Laycock, 1970c) suggest 10, 11 (Litteral, 1970), or even 12 vowels. ... Nevertheless, the minimal pairs are very few, so that the pronunciation of the speakers who are using more vowels than the basic five usually

goes unnoticed. (Wurm and Mühlhäusler, eds, 1985:302).

- 4) An exception to this principle is found in the unstressed syllable *i*, which occurs before predicates, normally after all subjects except *mi* (I), *mipela* (we), *yu* (you), *yupela* (you [pl.]) and *yumi* (you and I).
- 5) *Ĉi* is a particle showing 'proximity'; while *tie* is 'there', *ĉi tie* is 'here', and while *tiu is 'that'*, *ĉi tiu* is 'this'. This word may be placed either before or after the word it qualifies.
- 6) When we express time, worth, price, wages, arithmetic problems, we use the numbers without '-pera':
Nau em i tu klok. (It is two o'clock.), baim long tri dola (to buy for \$3.00), etc. In other cases, we use the numbers with 'pela': tupela man (two men), Mi gat tripela ten wan. (I am thirty-one.), etc.

REFERENCES

- Andersen, Roger (ed.), 1983. *Pidginization and Creolization as Language Acquisition*. Rowley, Mass. : Newbury House.
- Bickerton, Derek, 1977a. 'Pidginization and creolization: language acquisition and language universals', in Valdman, A. (ed.), 1977:49–69.
- Carrington, L. et al., 1983. *Papers in Pidgin and Creole Linguistics*. Pacific Linguistics, Series A—No. 65. Canberra: ANUP.
- Dutton, Tom E., 1973. *Conversational New Guinea Pidgin*. Pacific Linguistics, Series D—No.12. Canberra: ANUP.
- Ferguson, Charles A., 1964. 'Baby talk in six languages', in Gumperz, John J. and Hymes, Dell (eds.), *The Ethnography of Communication*. Washington, D. C. : American Anthropological Association.
- Forster, Peter G., 1982. *The Esperanto Movement*. New York: Mouton.
- Gresswell, John and Hartley, John, 1968. *Esperanto*. New York: David McKay Company Inc.
- Hall, Robert A. Jr., 1955. 'A Standard Orthography and a List of Suggested Spellings for Neo-Melanesian'. Port Moresby: Department of Education of Papua New Guinea.
- 1966. *Pidgin and Creole Languages*. Ithaca and London: Cornell University Press.
- McElhanon, K. A. (ed.), 1975. *Tok Pisin i go we?*. Kivung Special Publication Number One. Port Moresby: Linguistic Society of Papua New Guinea.
- Hymes, Dell (ed.), 1971. *Pidginization and Creolization of Language*. Cambridge: CUP.
- Mihalic, Francis, 1969. *Introduction to New Guinea Pidgin*. Milton, Qld: Jacaranda Press.
- 1971. *The Jacaranda Dictionary and Grammar of Melanesian Pidgin*. Milton, Qld: Jacaranda Press.
- Mosel, Ulrike, 1980. *Tolai and Tok Pisin: The Influence of the Substratum on the Development of New Guinea Pidgin*. Pacific Linguistics, Series B — No. 73. Canberra: ANUP.
- Mühlhäusler, Peter, 1974. *Pidginization and Simplification of Language*. Pacific Linguistics, Series B — No. 26. Canberra: ANUP.
- Mühlhäusler, Wurm et al., 1978. *Papers in Pidgin and Creole Linguistics*. Pacific Linguistics, Series A — No. 54. Canberra: ANUP.
- Murphy, John J., 1985. *The Book of Pidgin English*. Boroko: Gordon and Gotch.
- O'Connor, J. C., 1913. *Esperanto*. London: Review of Reviews Office. Platt, J., Weber, H. and Ho, M. L., 1984. *The New Englishes*. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul.

- Pride, John B. (ed.), 1982. *New Englishes*. Rowley, Mass. : Newbury House.
- Schumann, John H., 1978c. *The Pidginization Process: A Model for Second Language Acquisition*. Rowley, Mass. : Newbury House.
- Simon, L. and Young, H., 1978. *Pijin Blong Yumi*. Honiara: Solomon Island Christian Association Publications Group.
- Todd, Loreto, 1984. *Modern Englishes — Pidgins & Creoles*. Oxford: Basil Blackwell.
- Todd, L. and Mühlhäusler, P. et al., 1978. *Papers in Pidgin and Creole Linguistics*. Pacific Linguistics, Series A — No. 54. Canberra: ANUP.
- Tyron, Darrell, 1985. *Evri samting yu wantem save long Bislama be yu fraet tumas blong askem*. Port Vila: Pidgin Post.
- Valdman, Albert (ed.), 1977. *Pidgin and Creole Linguistics*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.
- Woolford, Ellen B., 1979. *Aspects of Tok Pisin Grammar*. Pacific Linguistics, Series D — No. 66. Canberra: ANUP.
- Wurm, S. A., 1969. 'English, Pidgin and what else?' *New Guinea*, 4/2:30—42.
- (ed.), 1977. *New Guinea Area Languages and Language Study, vol. 3: Language, Culture, Society, & the Modern World*, Fas. 2. Canberra: ANUP.
- (ed.), 1977. *New Guinea Area Languages and Language Study, vol. 3: Language, Culture, Society, & the Modern World*, Fas. 1. Canberra: ANUP.